
*Mark Fijor, the Technology Facilitator at Windsor and Dryden, has graciously offered to share "The Twelve Gifts of Tech" that he is sending to staff. Please contact any member of the **Westgate Tech Team** if you have any questions or would like more information.*

In the spirit of the holiday season, each day leading up to break I will be sending an email of resources and opportunities that the tech department has been working on or has come across as a gift to you.

Today's Gift: "Digital Storytelling"

Digital Storytelling has become one of the most popular technology projects in recent years. Blending a mix of picture, movies, and voice overs, digital stories provide students the opportunity to make their words come to life. Digital stories, technically speaking, are a combination of both visuals and audio in the form of a voiceover. This format allows students to create content and explore ideas in ways that were not possible 10 years ago without state-of-the-art equipment.

([Click here](#) to see an example of a digital story)

The first resource I would like to share is a website called The Digital Narrative: <http://www.thedigitalnarrative.com>

This website is an incredible resource for everything Digital Storytelling. It includes how-to documentation, examples, as well as ideas on different activities you can do in your classroom. One of my favorite activities is "The Wordle Warm-up": <http://www.thedigitalnarrative.com/teachign%20method%20lessons/warmups.htm>.

One of the great part about the activities on this website is that a lot of the activities focus on the writing rather than the tech. However, they use tech as a tool to help writing as opposed to letting the tech dictate the project.

Another tremendous resource for Digital Storytelling is a site that looks at the 7 Essential Elements for Digital Storytelling:

<http://digitalstorytelling.coe.uh.edu/7elements.html>

This site has many useful resources as well as examples of types of digital stories.

Lastly here is a website through Discovery Educator Network by a local educator Joe Brennan, there are some good resources on this site as well as a variety of examples. http://blog.discoveryeducation.com/digital_storytelling/

If you would like to learn more about Digital Storytelling, or if you would like to set up a project in your classroom, please do not hesitate to contact me and we can set up a time to meet.

Thank You,
Mark Fijor, Technology Facilitator- Windsor and Dryden Elementary Schools